

2005-06 SESSION

COMMITTEE HEARING RECORDS

Assembly Committee on Campaigns & Elections (AC-CE)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 05hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

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➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ **05hr_AC-CE_Misc_pt14**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **

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To: Members of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections
From: Rep. Jeff Wood
Date: January 25, 2006
Re: Testimony for AB 888, Voter Registration at Offices of County Clerks

Good morning Chairman Freese and Members of the Committee, and thank you for holding a hearing on AB 888. I drafted this bill at the suggestion of my county clerk, whose real-world experience with voter registration issues has provided excellent insight into the necessity of this legislation.

The Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 and State Legislation have drastically affected how local governments deal with elections. In the process of implementing State Wide Voter Registration (SVRS), one of the HAVA requirements, county clerks have taken on a key roll in getting and keeping registered voter information, along with many other additional duties associated with the SVRS system.

One of the county clerks' election responsibilities is to enter the EB 131 (Voter Registration Form) data into the SVRS system on behalf of many local jurisdictions. During a large election many electors call and stop by county clerks' offices to register to vote. As things stand now, county clerks have to refer them to their local clerk, most of whom do not have regular hours. Voters may also be sent to the register of deeds who then forwards the form to the local clerk.

Since county clerks are often "SVRS Providers" for most of their counties' jurisdictions, the local clerks would have to return the EB 131 back to the county clerks to enter within 10 days. **AB 888** gives county clerks the legal authority to accept and enter the registration forms directly to reduce duplication, save time and reduce voter confusion. This bill will change current law to reflect the actual activity going on in the county clerks' offices.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on AB 888 today. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.